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SECURITY INFORMATION

17 March 1953

COUNTRY: Uruguay

SUBJECT: Maintenance of Railways

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SOURCE :

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1. [REDACTED] impressed by this small country. The people were unusually happy and well cared for, having developed a way of life within their means. They seemed to have no fear and their individual liberties were respected. It is a true democracy.
2. [REDACTED] railway officials and responsible U.S. business men of long residence that the prime reason for nationalization of the railroads was the refusal of the British to advance Uruguayans to responsible jobs.
3. After three years of government ownership, [REDACTED] no evidence of any ill effects from loss of the trained personnel. A trip of three hundred miles found the rolling equipment and road beds in good condition, and schedules maintained.
4. Maintenance shop equipment is old by U.S. standards but is well used by skilled workmen. The general manager, chief engineer, and a few lower echelon supervisors were all found to be capable and well informed. [REDACTED] saw none of the former British personnel.

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